KIDDERMINSTER

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES

FOR

1906.

KIDDERMINSTER:

PRINTED AT THE SHUTTLE OFFICE, WORCESTER STREET.

KIDDERMINSTER

Rural District Council.

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KIDDERMINSTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1906.

To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

The number of Births registered in the District during the year is 245, and the birth rate 24·25. The average number for the past ten years is 243·1.

The number of deaths registered is 118, and the death rate 11·68; a very low rate compared with other districts similarly situated. The average number of deaths for the last ten years has been 127·1.

SICKNESS.—26 cases of Scarlet Fever have been notified, 8 of them from Kidderminster Foreign, 1 from the Wolverley district, 11 from the Chaddesley district, and 6 from the Arley and Wribbenhall district; of these 6 have been removed into the Infectious Hospital—5 of them from the Foreign and 1 from Chaddesley.

Two cases of Diphtheria have been notified, one of them from the Wolverley district, and one from the Arley district.

Twelve cases of Erysipelas have been notified, three from the Foreign, three from the Wolverley district, four from the Chaddesley district, and two from the Arley, Wribbenhall and Dowles District.

There has been one case only of Enteric Fever, and that was in the district of the Foreign of Kidderminster.

The Inspector visits all cases of infectious disease on receipt of the notification, and investigates their surroundings, giving instruction regarding precautions against spreading infection, supplying disinfectants, and if necessary superintending fumigation, etc., himself. He at once reports full particulars to me, and no cases are removed to the Hospital without my instructions. At the termination of the illness, or after a case has been removed to the Hospital, he informs me what has been done in the way of disinfection, whitewashing and cleansing of rooms, etc. He also keeps me punctually and fully informed of all the important details of his work.

Cases of Anthrax have occurred at Hodge Hill, Comberton, Nash End (two cases), Dunclent (two cases), and at the Home Farm, Upper Arley. In each instance the carcases have been promptly cremated, infected litter burnt, sheds limewashed, and any animals which had been exposed to infection isolated. Also the farmer has been warned to keep a careful watch upon the health of any persons who had handled the carcases. Where milch cows were implicated, an order was given to destroy the milk for the six days following the outbreak.

I have systematically visited the various portions of my district, and in April, made, in company with the Inspector, a house-to-house visitation of Sutton Common, Hemming Street and Spencer Street. These regions still maintain their insanitary notoriety. In Spencer Street and Hemming Street many of the houses are unspouted, there is no surface drainage, many of the dumb wells are far too near to the houses, the garden space is quite inadequate to continue receiving the sewage from them; and the wells, from which many obtain their water supply, are in constant danger of pollution.

In Sutton Common the arrangements for disposal of sewage are not much better. The garden space is as a rule inadequate, and the ground rises so rapidly at the back of the houses that it soon reaches the level of the bedroom windows; in consequence, sewage and surface water gravitate down to the dwellings, from which the dumb wells are in many cases only 4 or 5 yards distant.

In July I made, with the Inspector, a house-to-house visitation of Whitville and Marlpool Lane; here, although a proper system of drainage is badly needed, we found the premises in fair order considering the local conditions.

In October we visited all the houses in Foley Park. In this area the arrangements for disposal of sewage are more satisfactory, but the surface drainage is practically nil, and at the time of our visit—in damp weather—the main road opposite the school was in a disgraceful condition; quite unfit for the children to cross, on account of the depth of mud.

In accordance with the instructions of the Local Government Board, I will give you the following additional particulars of my work in the district.

March 19th.—Having been informed that a complaint had been made that the pool in Brinton Park was being polluted by drainage from houses in Sutton Road, and by overflow from their dumb wells, I visited the locality with your Inspector, and examined the surroundings of the pool. I could find no evidence that anything of the kind was likely to have occurred. It appears that several of the new houses on the Sutton Park Road have had their baths and sinks connected with a surface drain, which empties

into a sandpit about 100 yards on the other side of Sutton Road from the pool. Soapsuds could be seen in this pit, but there was no indication that these had found their way as far as the road, much less into the pool; and the drain has since been done away with. With regard to the dumb wells, which are very shallow, it is possible that a heavy storm might cause them to overflow, but if this has happened it must have been a very rare occurrence, or attention would have been called to it. The ditch which used to convey the water from Sutton pool into the Park pool is stopped up, and there is no appearance of any fresh water running into the Park pool, which at the time of my visit looked very stagnant, and contained a great depth of black mud; which was likely to account for any offensive emanations which may have been noticed there.

March 22nd.—I called Inspector's attention to Salloway's Cottage, Forge Bank, Cookley, which was in a very filthy condition, and had the pump out of order so that water could not be obtained. The agent promised to repair the pump, and a notice was served upon the tenants to cleanse the house; a temporary water supply was obtained from a spring across the road.

April 2nd.—In consequence of a complaint concerning a nuisance arising from pigs, I visited the Pound, Bluntington. At the time of my visit, which was unexpected, the pigs and styes were in a clean condition, and there was no nuisance arising from them or from the tubs of boiled potatoes adjoining the styes; but there were two accumulations of manure near the road, which would be offensive if disturbed, and these the occupier promised to remove at once.

June 7th.—I directed the Inspector's attention to a well in Austcliffe Lane, the cover being dilapidated and the paving around the well broken and uneven. The houses not being spouted, the surface water drains into the well, making the contents thick and dirty. The well evidently requires cleaning out, as the mud at the bottom is stirred up when a few buckets are drawn rapidly. The drain in the yard also was choked and overflowing.

June 16th.—I called Inspector's attention to choked drains at the Boat, Wolverley. The contents of the drain flow back into the washhouse, and the paving over the well is so defective that not only does the surface water lie in the holes, but it is absolutely dangerous to walk over in the dark. At the same time I called his attention also to choked and overflowing drains in Spencer Street.

June 25th.—I received a notice from the Medical Officer of Health of the Port of Liverpool, that an outbreak of small pox had occurred on board the S.S. Ivernia, and that one of her passengers was on his way to Foley Park, and another, with several children, proceeding to Caunsall. I sought out both individuals the same

day, ascertained that they had been re-vaccinated before leaving the ship, and cautioned them to advise me at once if any symptoms of illness occurred.

July 7th.—I called Inspector's attention to the well at the Pan Shops, the covering of which was very defective. There was a large hole close to the pump, into which the surface water drained.

Sept. 22nd.—I found a faulty sink at Clarke's, Barnett Hill, also a choked and overflowing drain close to the well, a foul closet, an over-full ashpit, and a foul pigstye, and requested Inspector to deal with these nuisances; and also with the following nuisances at Morris's, Hackman's Gate: a foul midden, a filthy sock pit near the pigstye, accumulations of manure close to the dwelling, a defective covering to the well allowing filth to drop through, and at the cottage next door a foul and overflowing privy close to the well. This privy is to be converted into a pan closet, or removed further from the well and house. The same day I visited the foundry at Blakedown, and examined a new closet which had been erected. It was simply an iron shed, without a door, and with only a rail (instead of a seat) over a shallow trough, no appliance for flushing or for the use of dry earth, or ashes, and only partial division of the compartments so that there was no attempt at privacy. I reported to H.M. Inspector of Factories that the arrangement was very crude, unsatisfactory and indecent, and he dealt with the matter.

In November, I called inspector's attention to defective paving near the well and obstructed drains at Portway Place, where also the water supply was complained of as being contaminated. This has been dealt with satisfactorily.

The Bakehouses and Slaughterhouses in the district have been regularly visited, and found, on the whole, in good order. Only one case of overcrowding has arisen, and been dealt with by notice.

I have visited the Factories, and at one of them found a foul and unflushed urinal; and at another, foul and defective closets and no proper urinal. In both cases these faulty conditions were remedied upon receipt of notice.

The Water Supply has been well maintained during the year, on the whole; 10 wells requiring cleaning out and repairing have been put in order after sanitary notice.

The following schools have been closed during the year:—Chaddesley Schools, on account of Measles and Mumps; Stone Schools, on account of Contagious Impetigo; Harvington School, on account of Mumps; Hill Pool Top School, on account of Measles; Hoobrook School, on account of Mumps and Impetigo, subsequently on account of Measles, and later on account of Chicken Pox; Wolverley School, on account of Ringworm and Impetigo, and subsequently on account of Whooping Cough and Chicken Pox.

I trust that before this new year has ended the scheme for providing a system of drainage for the insanitary areas of Whitville and Sutton Common will, at any rate, be well advanced towards completion. With the exception of these areas, the District is, and has been during the year, in a good sanitary condition.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. H. ADDENBROOKE.

TABLE I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1906, AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

KIDDERMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE		DEATHS AT ALL AGES.		DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	Rate,*	Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	Number	Rate.*				Number	Rate.*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1896	10018	239	23·85	28	117.1	109	10·8	1	1	...	108	10·7
1897	10200	213	20·88	29	136·15	117	11·47	2	2	...	115	11·27
1898	10100	232	22·7	17	73·28	110	10·78	...	...	...	110	10·78
1899	10100	268	26·27	26	97·01	128	12·55	2	2	...	126	12·35
1900	10200	252	24·72	37	146·8	146	14.31	...	...	...	146	14·3
1901	10100	251	24·8	28	111·5	134	13·3	1	1	...	133	13·3
1902	10100	246	24·3	29	117·9	135	13·35	7	7	10	138	13·5
1903	10100	236	23·3	23	97·03	127	12·53	26	21	22	128	12·6
1904	10100	254	25·1	30	118·1	130	12·8	6	6	14	138	13·5
1905	10100	240	23·7	20	83·3	135	13·3	1	1	13	147	14·5
Averages for years 1896-1905	10089·6	243·1	24·2	26·7	107·1	127·1	12·6	4·6	4·1	...	131·9	12·5
1906	10100	245	24·25	20	81·6	118	11·68	...	...	11	129	12·7

*Rates in Columns 4, 8 and 13, calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 32,935.
Total population at all ages at Census of 1901, 10,111; Number of inhabited houses, 2260; Average number of persons per house, 4·47.
Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District—Kidderminster Borough Infectious Hospital.
Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District—Kidderminster Union Workhouse, Kidderminster Infirmary and Children's Hospital.
Is the Union Workhouse within the District? No.

(TABLE II). *VITAL STATISTICS of separate Localities in 1906 and previous years.*

Kidderminster Rural District.

Names of Localities.	1 Kidderminster Foreign.				2 Wolverley.				3 Chaddesley Corbett.				4 Wribbenhall.			
Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under one year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under one year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under one year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under one year.
	a.	*b.*	*c.*	*d.*	*a.*	*b.*	*c.*	*d.*	*a.*	*b.*	*c.*	*d.*	*a.*	*b.*	*c.*	*d.*
1896	2831	66	23	8	2751	66	30	11	2319	71	26	6	2117	56	30	3
1897	2831	84	33	6	2751	56	24	5	2334	59	38	16	2117	17	22	2
1898	2998	62	32	5	2751	52	30	6	2334	63	25	3	2117	55	23	3
1899	2998	70	36	7	2751	81	34	8	2334	75	30	6	2117	42	28	5
1900	2998	69	30	12	2751	69	51	11	2334	60	33	8	2117	54	32	6
1901	3064	83	33	10	2751	64	43	10	2209	56	30	7	2083	47	28	1
1902	3064	79	34	7	2755	62	28	6	2210	62	34	11	2083	43	39	5
1903	3060	63	33	6	2750	77	44	8	2210	54	28	3	2080	42	23	6
1904	3060	77	42	8	2750	70	31	6	2210	57	33	14	2080	50	32	2
1905	3060	76	38	7	2750	64	47	7	2210	58	36	4	2080	42	26	2
Averages of years 1896 to 1905.	2940	72·9	33·4	7·6	2751·5	66·1	35·2	7·8	2254·2	60·6	32·3	7·8	2116·5	45	28·3	3·5
1906	3060	71	32	4	2750	63	22	5	2210	61	32	6	2080	50	32	5

KIDDERMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT

Table III.—CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1906.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in Whole District.							Total Cases Notified in Each Locality.				No. of Cases Removed to Hospital from each locality.			
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						1 Kidderminster Foreign.	2 Wolverley.	3 Chaddesley Corbett.	4 Wribbenhall.	1 Kidderminster Foreign.	2 Wolverley.	3 Chaddesley Corbett.	4 Wribbenhall.
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 and up'wds								
Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Membranous Croup ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	12	1	..	..	..	6	5	3	3	4	2	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	26	..	9	12	2	3	..	8	1	11	6	5	..	1	..
Typhus Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Relapsing Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
												H			
Totals	41	1	9	13	4	9	5	12	5	15	9	5	..	1	..

H.—Kidderminster Borough Infectious Hospital, Stourport Road, Kidderminster.

KIDDERMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.

Table IV.—CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING YEAR 1906.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents," whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to Localities, whether occurring in or beyond the District.				Total Deaths, whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Kidderminster Foreign	Wolverley.	Chaddesley. Corbett.	Wribbenhall.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	3	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..
Croup	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Epidemic Influenza	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
Diarrhœa	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Enteritis	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Phthisis, (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ..	8	..	..	..	2	6	..	3	1	3	1	..
Other Tubercular Diseases ..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
Cancer, Malignant disease ..	18	..	..	..	..	7	11	7	3	6	2	..
Bronchitis	5	..	..	..	..	..	5	3	1	..	1	..
Pneumonia	5	1	..	1	..	1	2	1	1	2	1	..
Pleurisy	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Alcoholism (Cirrhosis of Liver) ..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Premature Birth	6	6	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	..	1	..
Diseases & accidents of parturition	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..
Heart Diseases	12	..	..	..	1	3	8	3	..	7	2	..
Accidents	7	2	..	1	1	2	2	2	2	..	3	..
Suicides	4	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	1	3	..	..
Acute Laryngitis	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..
All other causes	50	7	2	..	2	8	31	11	9	10	20	..
All causes	130	20	7	4	6	33	60	37	25	35	33	..

KIDDERMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.

TABLE V.—INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR, 1906.

Deaths from stated causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year
All Causes.	Certified	9	..	..	1	10	2	3	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	20
	Uncertified	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Common Infectious Diseases	Small Pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diarrhœal Diseases.	Diarrhœa, all forms.. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Enteritis, Muco - enteritis, Gastro-enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Wasting Diseases.	Premature Birth	5	..	..	1	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
	Congenital Defects	3	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
	Injury at Birth	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.	..	..	1
	Convulsions	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
	Laryngitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
	Suffocation, overlaying ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	TOTAL.. ..	9	..	..	1	10	2	3	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	20

Population, Estimated to middle of 1906, 10,100.
Deaths from all Causes at all ages, 118.

Births in the year—legitimate, 241; illegitimate, 4.
Deaths in the year of—legitimate infants, 19; illegitimate infants, 1.

KIDDERMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORK-PLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances

PREMISES.	NUMBER OF		
	INSPECTIONS.	WRITTEN NOTICES.	PROSECUTIONS.
FACTORIES .. .. .. (Including Factory Laundries)	13 No Factory Laundries	None	None
WORKSHOPS .. .. .. (Including Workshop Laundries)	62	9	,,
WORKPLACES	1	None	,,
TOTAL	76	9	None

2—DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS.	NUMBER OF DEFECTS.			NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS.
	FOUND	REMEDIED	REFERRED TO H.M. INSPECTOR.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	None	None
Sanitary accommodations — insufficient	None	None	..	..
Sanitary accommodations — unsuitable or defective ..	4	4	..	..
Sanitary accommodations — not separate for sexes ..	None	None	..	..
Offences under the Factories and Workshop Acts :—				
Illegal occupation of Underground Bakehouse ..	None	None	..	..
TOTAL	5	5	None	None

3—HOME WORK.

Lists of Outworkers Received—Tailoress—Making Wearing Apparel, 1.
Number of Inspections of Outworkers' Premises—4.

4—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register at the end of 1906 :—Tailors, 3 ; Laundries, 5; Wheelwright, 1 ; Blacksmiths, 13 ; Builders & Contractors, 3 ; Carpenter and Cabinet Maker, 1 ; Carpenters, 4; Coal Merchant and Carrier, 1; Wheelwright and Coffin Maker, 1; Dressmakers, 5 ; Bakers, 9 ; Boot and Shoemakers, 5 ; Painter, 1 ; Carpenter & Iron Roof Maker, 1; Grinders, 2 Photographer, 1; Dress and Costume Maker, 1; Sadler, 1; Carpenter and Coffin Maker, 1 ; Carpenter and Joiner, 1; Wheelwright, Coffin Maker and Blacksmith, 1 ; Cattle Crib and Fowlhouse Maker, 1—*Total, 62.*

5—OTHER MATTERS.

Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act—*Nine.*
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act ; notified by H.M. Inspector—*Three.*

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.

KIDDERMINSTER,
JANUARY 8TH, 1907.

To the Chairman and Members of the Kidderminster Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg leave to present you with my twenty-second Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1906:—

The number of sanitary notices served was 276, as against 274 for last year; increase 2.

The notices related to 179 nuisances as against 146 last year; increase 33.

DESCRIPTION OF NUISANCES DEALT WITH.

Unwholesome dwelling houses	11
Defective drainage to sinks	3
Accumulations or deposits	8
Foul or offensive privy ashpits	78
Defective or choked drains	15
Overcrowding	1
Defective water supplies	6
Defective water closets	3
Foul and offensive ditch	1
Offensive pail closets	4
Dilapidated Closets (series)	1
Defective dumbwell pumps	2
Smoke nuisance from brewhouse	1
Defective and dilapidated privy ashpit	1
Foul and offensive piggeries	7
Privy ashpit converted to pan closet	1
Defective pump and dilapidated privy ashpit ...	1
Defective covering to well	1
Foul and overflowing dumbwells	24
Miscellaneous nuisances	9
Defective dumbwell	1
	179

The Infectious Diseases Notification Act. 1889.

Under this Act certificates have been received from the Medical Officer of Health relating to the following cases, which total 41, as against 83 last year; decrease 42.

In the Chaddesley Corbett District, comprising the parishes of Chaddesley Corbett. Stone, Broom, and Rushock :—

Scarlet Fever,	11	... last year,	28	... decrease,	17
Erysipelas	4	... ,,	5	... decrease,	1
Total	... 15		33	decrease,	18

Of the Erysipelas cases one occurred at Hoobrook, in the parish of Stone; two at Chaddesley Village, and one at Drayton. Of the eleven Scarlet Fever cases, three occurred at Outwood, six at Hackman's Gate, (five of these occurred in one cottage), one at Barnett Hill, and one at Hill Pool. Only one case of Scarlet Fever (removed by instructions of the Medical Officer of Health into the Borough Infectious Hospital) from Hill Pool, as against 13 last year; decrease of 12.

There was no infectious disease reported for Broom or Rushock.

The Wribbenhall District, comprising Ribbesford, Dowles, Upper Arley, and Wribbenhall :—

Scarlet Fever,	6	... last year,	7	... decrease,	1.
Erysipelas	2	... last year,	3	... decrease,	1.
Diphtheria	1	... last year,	0	... increase,	1.
Total	... 9		10	decrease,	1.

The Erysipelas cases were :—1, Wribbenhall Village; and 1, Seckley Lodge, in the parish of Upper Arley.

The Scarlet Fever cases were :—1, The Village, Wribbenhall; 1, Spencer Avenue, Wribbenhall; 3, Blackstone; and 1, Coney Green Farm Cottage, Ribbesford.

The Diphtheria case occurred at Catchem's End.

There were no removals into the Borough Infectious Hospital.

No infectious disease reported for Dowles Parish.

The Wolverley District, comprising the parishes of Wolverley and Churchill :—

Diphtheria	1	... last year,	0	... increase,	1
Scarlet Fever,	1	... last year,	21	... decrease	20
Erysipelas.	3	... last year,	0	... increase,	3
Total	5	... last year,	21	... decrease,	16

The Diphtheria case occurred at Cookley Village ; Scarlet Fever case at Lea Castle. The Erysipelas cases were : two at Hobro', and one at Broadwaters. There was no removal into the Borough Infectious Hospital.

No infectious disease reported for Churchill parish,

The Foreign of Kidderminster.

Scarlet Fever,	8	... last year,	14	...	decrease,	6.
Erysipelas.	3	... last year,	2	...	increase,	1.
Enteric	1	... last year,	2	...	decrease,	1.
Puerperal	0	... last year,	1	...	decrease,	1.
Total	12	... last year,	19	...	decrease.	7.

The Scarlet Fever cases occurred:— Reservoir Road, Foley Park, 2 ; Sutton Road, 1 ; Foley Park Cottages, 1 ; Northumberland Avenue, Foley Park, 2 ; Spencer Street, Sutton Common 2 ; and Stourport Road, 1.

The Erysipelas cases were:— Park Villas, Sutton Park Road, 1 ; Hill Grove Crescent, 1 ; and Franche, 1.

The case of Enteric occurred in Spirit Lane.

Removals into the Borough Infectious Hospital, 5 ; as against 4 last year ; increase, 1.

Summary of Fever Cases.

Scarlet Fever,	26	... last year,	70	...	decrease,	44.
Erysipelas,	12	... last year,	10	...	increase,	2.
Diphtheria	2	... last year,	0	...	increase,	2.
Enteric	1	... last year,	2	...	decrease,	1.
Puerperal	0	... last year,	1	...	decrease,	1.
Total ...	41		83	...	decrease,	42.

Six cases were removed into the Borough Infectious Hospital, as against 31 last year ; decrease, 25.

The cases were :—one from Hill Pool, Chaddesley Corbett Parish, and five from the Foreign of Kidderminster.

The Public Health Water Act.

Under sect. 6, chap. 35, of the above Act two notices were served with reference to a cottage at Caunsall, and with reference to two villa residences at Wribbenhall. The first-named made arrangements for a supply of water from adjoining spring. In the

other case a sample was sent to the County Analyst, who certified that the water was fit for drinking purposes, and a certificate was granted by the Council. Twenty-two new houses have been erected in the district, viz., Foley Park and Hill Grove Crescent, 12,—2 in Hemming Street, 5 in Wribbenhall, and 3 at Caunsall; 14 of these have the Kidderminster town water laid on. Of the 5 in Wribbenhall, 3 have the Bewdley town water laid on, and in the other two the water is certified by the County Analyst. The 3 at Caunsall have a supply from adjoining wells. Other houses are in course of erection in the district.

Disinfection.

In all cases of Fever a plentiful supply of disinfectants is given out, and fumigation, cleansing, and whitewashing are ordered, and reports on each case sent to the Medical Officer of Health, at once, who also visits the cases.

Dairies, Milk Shops, and Cowsheds.

These have had my surveillance from time to time, when I have found cleansing and white-washing attended to, except in a few instances, which were afterwards remedied. Five persons have been added to the register during the year.

Bakehouses and Slaughterhouses.

These have been regularly inspected both by the Medical Officer of Health and myself, and they have been kept on the whole in a satisfactory condition with cleansing and whitewashing, except in one or two instances, which were remedied. There are no underground bakehouses in this district.

Systematic Inspection.

This is regularly carried out in all parts of the district.

Canal Boats Act and Regulations.

No. of boats inspected, 121; last year, 137; decrease, 16. Visits to the canal, 59; Visits to the canal and saw no boats, 18; Boats conforming to Acts and Regulations, 117; Boats with one or more infringements, 4; Boat left outstanding, 1. Three of the infringements have been remedied. The number of persons found on these boats: males, 281; females, 9; children, 9.

I again testify to the general improvement, and to the good condition of the boats coming under my inspection. Fewer women and children were found, and out of 121 boats inspected only four infringements were found.

Bye-Laws relating to Nuisances.

Two breaches of these bye-laws came under my notice, which were dealt with and remedied.

Closing of Schools.

Mixed and Infant School, Chaddesley, closed from Feb. 5th to Feb. 26th, through the prevalence of measles. Hill Top County School, Chaddesley Parish, closed from Feb. 7th to Feb. 28th, through measles; also Stone Endowed School through skin eruption and scald heads from Feb. 17th to March 3rd; also further closing of Chaddesley Mixed and Infants, from Feb. 26th to March 5th. Further closing of Stone schools through skin eruption from March 5th to March 19th; further closing of Hill Top County School, Chaddesley Parish, from Mar. 5th to Mar. 19th, through measles and mumps. Hoobrook Infant School, in the Parish of Stone, closed from Mar. 5th to Mar. 19th, through mumps. Wolverley Infant School closed from Mar. 16th to April 13th, through ringworm and impetigo. Further closing of Hoobrook Infant School from March 22nd to April 13th through mumps and impetigo. Harvington School, Chaddesley Parish, closed from March 22nd till April 13th, through mumps. Further closing of Hoobrook Infant School for 21 days, from the 8th of May; also a further closing of Hoobrook Infant School from July 2nd to July 16th, through chicken-pox. Wolverley Infant School closed from Dec. 5th to Dec. 20th, through the prevalence of whooping-cough and chicken-pox. These schools were closed by the Medical Officer of Health, by order signed by two members of the Council.

Special Inspections.

Special house-to-house inspection in Sutton Road, Mar. 31; 67 houses visited. In company with the Medical Officer of Health, on May 2nd, I visited Spencer Street and Hemming Street, making a house-to-house inspection. On the 5th of May the Medical Officer of Health visited houses in Sutton Road; on May 30th I visited Arley Village. On Oct. 24th, in company with the Medical Officer of Health, I visited the left-hand side of Foley Park. On May 28th and 30th the sewer at Arley Village burst. This was attended to, under my surveillance, by men employed by R. Woodward, Esq.

Cases of Anthrax.

Several cases of Anthrax amongst cattle were reported. Every precaution was taken to prevent the disease spreading. The carcases were burnt and the premises whitewashed and disinfected.

Water Supply.

The water supply of the district has been well maintained.

Factory and Workshops Act.

Workshops under inspection :—Tailors, 3 ; Laundresses, 5 ; Wheelwright, 1 ; Blacksmiths, 13 ; Builders and Contractors, 3 ; Carpenter and Cabinet Maker, 1 ; Carpenters, 4; Coal Merchant and Carrier, 1 ; Wheelwright and Coffin Maker, 1 ; Dressmakers, 5 ; Bakers, 9 ; Boot and Shoemakers, 5 ; Painter, 1 ; Carpenter and Iron Roof Maker, I ; Grinders, 2 ; Photographer, 1 ; Dress and Costume Maker, 1 ; Saddler, 1 ; Carpenter and Coffin Maker, 1 ; Carpenter and Joiner, 1 ; Wheelwright, Coffin Maker, and Blacksmith, 1 ; Cattle Crib and Fowl-house Maker, 1. Total, 62.

Out-Workers.

No lists have been received by me. There is only one on the register—a Tailoress. The workshops are visited regularly, and on the whole are kept clean and satisfactory. The few exceptions were soon remedied.

Correspondence.

Over 48 special letters have been written with reference to Scarlet Fever cases throughout the year.

The cases of Nuisances have been abated without any proceedings before the justices. There are only 8 cases outstanding.

Trusting in my capacity as your Inspector of Nuisances and Inspector of Canal Boats, I have given you satisfaction, and thanking you for your kind assistance and support in the discharge of my duties.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES STEADMAN,

Inspector of Nuisances.